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Sixty-eighth session
Agenda items 35, 37, 109 and 110

The situation in the Middle East

The situation in Afghanistan

International drug control

Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Letter dated 11 October 2013 from the Permanent Representative of Tajikistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the Bishkek Declaration of the heads of the member States of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO), signed on 13 September 2013 in Bishkek by the Presidents of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the People's Republic of China, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Russian Federation, the Republic of Tajikistan and the Republic of Uzbekistan at the meeting of the SCO Council of Heads of State.

I should be grateful if you would arrange for this letter and its annex to be circulated as a document of the sixty-eighth session of the General Assembly under agenda items 35, 37, 109 and 110.

(*Signed*) Sirodjidin **Aslov**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

13-52181 (E) 231013 231013

Please recycle

Annex to the letter dated 11 October 2013 from the Permanent Representative of Tajikistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Bishkek Declaration of the heads of the member States of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation

At the conclusion of the meeting of the Council of Heads of State, held in Bishkek on 13 September 2013, the heads of the member States of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (hereinafter referred to as "SCO" or "the Organisation") made the following statement.

Regarding the future development of the Organisation, the Heads of State reaffirm their commitment to coordinated action based on the principles and provisions of the Charter and other documents of the SCO. They note that the entry into force of the Treaty on Long-Term Good-Neighbourliness, Friendship and Cooperation between the member States of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation provided a solid legal basis for the creation of a lasting peace and shared prosperity in the SCO space.

* * *

The member States note that international relations are currently in a phase of far-reaching transformation, with many more factors of uncertainty and instability. Global challenges and threats (terrorism, separatism and extremism, the spread of weapons of mass destruction, illegal drug trafficking, organized crime, cybercrime, development imbalances, food insecurity and climate change) now transcend frontiers and demand greater attention from the world community. Many regional and local conflicts remain unresolved.

The member States consistently advocate further reinforcement of the legal foundations of international relations, based on the generally recognized principles and norms of international law, and primarily the Charter of the United Nations, as well as of the international obligations of States, and respect for the right of their peoples independently to choose the path to their political, social and economic development.

The member States note that international and regional conflicts must be settled exclusively by peaceful political and diplomatic means in accordance with the principles of equality of rights, respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, non-interference in the internal affairs of States and renunciation of the use or threat of use of force.

The member States favour further strengthening of the central coordinating role of the United Nations in international affairs to promote the maintenance of peace, security and stability, stimulate concerted, steady and constructive development and encourage broad and mutually beneficial international cooperation. They recognize the need to reform the United Nations in order to make its activities more results-oriented and enable it to respond in a more timely and effective manner to global challenges and threats.

The member States believe that, in order to achieve the broadest possible agreement on reform of the United Nations Security Council, the countries concerned must continue consultations to find a comprehensive approach to a solution which takes into account mutual interests and concerns and does not impose reform options that are not supported by the majority of States Members of the United Nations.

The member States will strive, while facing dynamic and fundamental changes in the world that affect their interests and relying on a high degree of mutual trust, to ensure security, stability, good-neighbourliness, friendship and mutually beneficial cooperation in the region.

* * *

The member States are actively and purposefully combating international terrorism, separatism and extremism, transnational organized crime, illegal trafficking in drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors, as well as weapons, ammunition and explosives, threats to information security and illegal migration, and favour further enhancement of the normative basis for cooperation in these areas.

The member States, emphasizing that these negative factors taken together pose a serious challenge to global and regional security, are firmly committed to continue work on the practical implementation of the Shanghai Convention on Combating Terrorism, Separatism and Extremism, the SCO Counter-terrorism Convention, the Programme of Cooperation among SCO member States in efforts to combat terrorism, separatism and extremism in 2013-2015, and the Agreement between the Governments of SCO member States on cooperation in the Field of International Information Security.

The member States believe that illegal trafficking in and non-medical use of drugs seriously undermine stability and security and the health and well-being of the population of States in the region. Steps must be taken to create an effective system for jointly tackling the drug problem and a reliable bulwark against illegal trafficking in drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors and to prevent the spread of drug addiction. There should be active cooperation in this matter with other concerned States and with regional and international organizations and structures.

The member States express their willingness to promote practical implementation of the provisions of the Agreement between SCO member States on cooperation to combat illegal trafficking in drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors, the Anti-drug Strategy of the SCO member States for 2011-2016 and the Programme of Action for its implementation.

The member States will work to build a peaceful, secure, just and open information space, based on the principles of respect for State sovereignty and non-interference in the internal affairs of other countries. They will combat the use of information and communication technology to undermine the political, economic and social security of member States and the propagation of the ideas of terrorism,

extremism and separatism on the Internet and will work for the formulation of universal rules, principles and norms for States' responsible conduct in cyberspace.

* * *

The member States are in favour of the construction in Afghanistan of an independent, neutral, peaceful and prosperous State, free from terrorism and drug crime. National reconciliation must be Afghan-led and Afghan-executed, in order to allow the speediest achievement of peace and stability in this country. The global society must create the conditions for the speediest attainment of peace and the United Nations must play a central coordinating role in international efforts to achieve an Afghan settlement and assist in the reconstruction of Afghanistan.

The member States are deeply concerned about the situation in the Near East and North Africa, particularly in Syria, and hope for the achievement of peace, stability, prosperity and progress in this region without external interference, including use of force, not sanctioned by the United Nations Security Council.

The member States hope that the Syrians themselves will achieve a speedy end to the crisis in Syria with respect for the sovereignty of the Syrian Arab Republic, that the violence in this country will end and that a broad political dialogue will be launched between the authorities and the opposition without preconditions, on the basis of the Geneva communiqué of 30 June 2012. They support efforts to convene an international conference to lay the foundation for reconciliation and normalization in Syria and for assistance from the global community in this process. They strongly condemn any manifestation of terrorism and violence against the peaceful population, particularly on religious or nationalist grounds, and oppose illegal actions aimed at further militarization of the internal conflict in Syria.

The member States support the initiative to place Syrian chemical weapons under international control, and to require their subsequent destruction, and Syria's accession to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction.

The member States are concerned about the situation regarding Iran and its nuclear programme. They consider the threats of military force and unilateral sanctions by individual States against that country to be unacceptable. The trend towards a confrontational scenario is fraught with serious and unpredictable consequences both for the whole region and for international peace and security in general. There is no alternative to a peaceful resolution of this question.

The member States invite all countries to adopt a responsible approach and exercise restraint, avoiding statements — and, even more, actions — that further exacerbate the confrontation.

All the existing concerns can be allayed only by peaceful means using a phased and reciprocal approach. In this regard, it is important to maintain the momentum of the negotiating process generated at the meetings of the representatives of the "Sextet" of international mediators with Iran held in Almaty in February and April 2013 and to move towards a specific mutually acceptable understanding.

The member States believe that negotiations and consultations are the only effective way of preserving peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula and achieving its denuclearization. They appeal for prompt resumption of the six-party talks on the nuclear problem of the Korean Peninsula on the basis of the goals and principles of the Joint Statement by the "Sextet" of 19 September 2005.

The member States reiterate that the unilateral and unrestricted accumulation of anti-ballistic missiles by one State or group of States, in disregard of the interests of other countries, can undermine strategic stability and international security. Such problems must be resolved through political and diplomatic efforts by all concerned States. The member States are convinced that one's own security cannot be achieved at the expense of the security of others.

* * *

The continuing instability of the global economy requires effective joint measures by the SCO member States in the area of economic cooperation, which is an important way of ensuring steady social and economic development and stability in the SCO space.

The member States attach great importance to practical application of the List of Measures for advancing projects within the Organisation between 2012 and 2016 and of the Plan of Measures for implementation of the Programme of multilateral trade and economic cooperation among SCO member States.

The heads of State noted the importance of the work done to study issues relating to the creation of an SCO Development Fund (Special Account) and of an SCO Development Bank and requested that efforts should continue to complete the study rapidly.

The heads of State are convinced of the need for speedier implementation of the projects for expansion of transport and communication facilities in the region, infrastructure development, creation of international multimodal logistics centres, trade and tourism, adoption of innovative and energy-saving technologies, including tapping the potential of observer States and dialogue partners. In this connection, the member States are determined to work together to create favourable conditions for the development of trade, economic and investment activity in the SCO space.

* * *

The member States continue to cooperate in the scientific, technical, cultural and humanitarian spheres and in the area of tourism, in order to further strengthen relations of long-term good-neighbourliness, friendship and cooperation, spiritual rapprochement and promotion of intercultural dialogue in the interest of the peoples living in the SCO space.

The member States intend also to further develop ties in the area of health care, including initiation of effective practical action to deal with the threat of particularly dangerous and other infectious diseases.

The member States stress the importance of improving and expanding capacity to deal with emergencies caused by natural disasters and technology-related catastrophes, as well as joint response to them.

* * *

In addition, the member States will in future expand cooperation within the Organisation, raising it to a qualitatively new level and making the SCO space a region of lasting peace, friendship, prosperity and harmony.

In this connection, the Heads of State request the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of SCO member States to have a draft strategy prepared for the development of the Organisation between now and 2025 and to submit it for the consideration of the SCO Council of Heads of State in the usual manner.

The member States are open to dialogue with concerned States and international and regional structures on ways of ensuring security and stability and strengthening mutually beneficial, trade, economic, cultural and humanitarian ties in the region and in the world.

The President of the Republic of Kazakhstan	**N. A. Nazarbayev**
The President of the People's Republic of China	**Xi Jinping**
The President of the Kyrgyz Republic	**A. S. Atambayev**
The President of the Russian Federation	**V. V. Putin**
The President of the Republic of Tajikistan	**E. Rahmon**
The President of the Republic of Uzbekistan	**I. A. Karimov**

Bishkek, 13 September 2013

United Nations A/68/534–S/2013/604

General Assembly
Security Council

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18 October 2013
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General Assembly
Sixty-eighth session
Agenda item 35
The situation in the Middle East

Security Council
Sixty-eighth year

Identical letters dated 11 October 2013 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I should like to convey to you the following information:

At 1415 hours on 30 September 2013, an Israeli enemy military launch violated Lebanese territorial waters opposite Ra's al-Naqurah between buoys Nos. 4 and 6 and proceeded for some 20 metres before returning to occupied Palestinian territorial waters.

At approximately 1636 hours on 1 October 2013 at a location near the Israeli enemy's Radar position in the occupied Shab'a Farms, four Israeli enemy personnel crossed the line of withdrawal and proceeded as far as the point having coordinates Q758070–N692186, or some 296 metres inside Lebanese territory. They attempted to abduct Abdullah Zahrah, a Lebanese shepherd, as he was herding livestock in the above-mentioned area. This violation was confirmed by personnel of the Indian contingent belonging to the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon.

At 1050 hours on 2 October 2013, four Israeli enemy military launches put in place buoy No. 5. One of those launches violated Lebanese territorial waters and proceeded for some 10 metres before returning to occupied Palestinian territorial waters.

These acts are a blatant violation of my country's sovereignty and the relevant international resolutions, including Security Council resolution 1701 (2006). They are also a flagrant contravention of the Charter of the United Nations and the principles and provisions of international law. I call on the Security Council to condemn these violations in the strongest terms and to compel Israel to halt its violations of Lebanon's sovereignty and fulfil all its obligations pursuant to resolution 1701 (2006).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter issued as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 35, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Nawaf **Salam**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

13-52085 (E) 211013 211013

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United Nations A/68/535

General Assembly

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17 October 2013

Original: English

Sixty-eighth session
Agenda item 115 (c)
Elections to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other elections: election of fourteen members of the Human Rights Council

Note verbale dated 6 October 2013 from the Permanent Mission of Saudi Arabia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly

The Permanent Mission of Saudi Arabia to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Office of the President of the General Assembly, and has the honour to refer to the candidature of Saudi Arabia for election to the Human Rights Council for the term 2014-2016 (see annex), and to resolution 60/251, paragraph 8, regarding the contribution of candidates to the promotion and protection of human rights and their voluntary pledges and commitments made thereto. It also has the honour to transmit herewith the voluntary pledges of Saudi Arabia (see annex).

The Permanent Mission of Saudi Arabia to the United Nations requests that the present note verbale and its annex be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 115 (c).

13-52041 (E) 281013

Please recycle

Annex to the note verbale dated 6 October 2013 from the Permanent Mission of Saudi Arabia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly

[Original: Arabic]

Candidacy of Saudi Arabia for membership of the Human Rights Council for the period 2014-2016

1. Saudi Arabia, in view of its right conduct that is based on the Islamic sharia, which urges cooperation in all matters that promote the welfare of humanity; cognizant of its humanitarian responsibility at both the national and international levels; desiring to support the work of the United Nations and the Human Rights Council, of both of which it is a founding member; and aspiring to build on its achievements and the contributions it made during its two consecutive membership periods from 2006 to 2012, hereby presents its candidacy for membership of the Human Rights Council for the period 2014-2016.

2. During its two consecutive terms of membership, Saudi Arabia supported and complied with the resolutions of the Human Rights Council and participated in the drafting of some resolutions. It has also cooperated with Human Rights Council mechanisms, particularly the universal periodic review mechanism, in a manner that reflects its relentless pursuit of the realization of human rights on the ground. Saudi Arabia has also cooperated closely with special procedure mandate holders by responding promptly to their enquiries, clarifications and guidance. It has also cooperated with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in matters that the Human Rights Council had referred to the Office.

3. Following is a review of Saudi Arabia's commitments and efforts with regard to human rights at both the national and international levels. This is followed by a review of Saudi Arabia's contributions in support of human rights and a listing of the country's voluntary human rights commitments for its potential forthcoming membership of the Human Rights Council.

Recent human rights efforts of Saudi Arabia at the national level

Human rights regulations, instruments and institutions

4. The Islamic sharia, from which Saudi Arabia derives its regulations, stresses the protection of human rights and prohibits the violation thereof. Accordingly, it is the State's responsibility to protect and promote human rights. The Constitution of Saudi Arabia, article 26, expressly provides that the State shall protect human rights in accordance with the Islamic sharia.

5. Acting on the basis of Saudi Arabian law, which is derived from the sharia that guarantees human rights to all, and Saudi Arabia's unwavering belief in human rights and the State's duty to give effect to and strengthen such rights in accordance with the country's international obligations, the Government established the Human Rights Commission. The mandate of this governmental body, which reports directly to the King in his capacity as Prime Minister, is to protect and promote human rights in accordance with international human rights standards. The Commission monitors implementation of the instruments to which Saudi Arabia has acceded and annually submits a report on the human rights situation in the country.

6. In addition, the National Society for Human Rights, an independent non-governmental organization that protects and defends human rights, was established, along with several other non-governmental human rights organizations.

7. Saudi Arabia also established a permanent National Committee to Combat Trafficking in Persons. Its responsibilities include, inter alia, following up on the status of victims of human trafficking, developing a policy that emphasizes the need to seek out victims and training law enforcement officers in methods of identifying them.

8. Saudi Arabia has acceded to the following significant international instruments:

- The International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination;
- The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women;
- The Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment;
- The Convention on the Rights of the Child and its Optional Protocols on the involvement of children in armed conflict and on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography;
- The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and its Optional Protocol.

9. At the regional level, Saudi Arabia acceded to the Arab Charter on Human Rights. It also participated in the drafting and adoption of the following instruments:

- The Cairo Declaration on Human Rights in Islam;
- The Declaration on the Rights and Care of the Child in Islam;
- The Convention of the Organization of the Islamic Conference on Combating International Terrorism;
- The Riyadh Declaration on Human Rights in Times of Peace and War;
- The Covenant on the Rights of the Child in Islam;
- The statute of the Women's Development Organization and the statute of the Independent Permanent Human Rights Commission of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation.

10. Saudi Arabia has adopted several significant laws that protect human rights, including the Judiciary Law, the Code of Criminal Procedure, the Board of Grievances Law, the Code of Legal Procedure, the Legal Profession Law, the Labour Law, the Law on Caring for the Disabled, the Law on Combating Human Trafficking, the Law on Protection against Abuse and the Ordinance on Domestic Workers and Others Performing Similar Jobs.

11. Human rights departments and commissions were established in a number of ministries and other governmental agencies, including the Commission on Human Rights and Petitions of the Shura Council.

Women's and children's rights

12. Acting on the basis of the principle of fair equality between the sexes, which, in turn, is based on the principle of complementariness in rights and duties, and desiring to increase women's participation in decision-making, a royal decree was issued amending article 3 of the Shura Council statute. Under the amended article, women are considered full members of the Shura Council and must hold a minimum of 20 per cent of its seats. It was also decided that, starting with the next round of elections, women can be candidates for municipal council seats and vote in municipal council elections.

13. With regarding to increasing access to education, particularly for women, it should be noted that, in 2011, the number of women enrolled in higher education institutions reached 473,725, while male enrolment stood at 429,842. By contrast, in 1961, only four Saudi Arabian women were enrolled in such institutions.

14. The number of women holding Government jobs increased by 7.85 per cent from 2010 to 2011. The number of women employed in education reached 228,000, while the number of males employed was 224,000. The number of women who are members of university faculties or employed as university lectures increased from 11,000 to 13,000.

15. The number of students on scholarships to study abroad grew to 24,851. It should be noted that, between 2007 and 2011, the rate of growth in the number female students receiving such scholarships was 389.4 per cent, compared to an increase of 30.47 per cent for males.

16. The Implementation Law, part IV, chapter II, includes provisions related to personal status matters, such as custody, alimony, visitation and marital issues. In order to reconcile families, mediation units were established in the courts and civil institutions to facilitate the reconciliation of families and promote family welfare. Those units play a leading role in ensuring familial cohesion.

17. The Shura Council approved the Child Protection Law, which protects children from all forms of violence. This Law is aimed at realizing the best interests of the child and raising awareness in society of the child's rights. It prohibits the taking of any action that might be detrimental to the child's safety or health. It also serves to fulfil in part Saudi Arabia's obligations under the Convention on the Rights of the Child, to which the country acceded in 1996. The Law defines a child as anyone who is younger than eighteen years of age and prohibits the employment of children under the age of fifteen. The Council of Ministers ratified this Law on 24 December 2012.

18. Saudi Arabia was able to achieve many of the targets it had established with regard to child health care. In accordance with the Millennium Development Goals, by the end of 2011, the immunization rate for targeted diseases stood at 98.2 per cent and the mortality rate among children under five years old had decreased by two thirds.

Combating human trafficking

19. Given that the Islamic sharia prohibits all forms of human trafficking and in view of the country's international obligations as a party to the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized

Crime, Saudi Arabia enacted the Law on Combating Human Trafficking. Under the Law, the penalty for this crime is imprisonment for up to 15 years and a fine of up to 1 million Saudi Arabian riyals. These penalties are increased in cases where the victim is from a most vulnerable group.

Promoting a culture of human rights

20. The second phase of the programme to promote a culture human rights was completed. Several Government agencies participated in the implementation of the programme, with each agency designing its own plan based on the following principles: the plan must help Saudi Arabia fulfil its obligations under the instruments to which it has acceded; it must address social issues related to human rights violations and inappropriate conduct; and it must focus directly on the essence of human rights and human rights standards.

21. The Human Rights Commission holds workshops for members of the judiciary, including judges, and members of the Bureau of Investigation and Public Prosecution (the public prosecutor). These workshops focus on the essence of human rights and human rights standards and familiarize participants with Saudi Arabia's international human rights obligations.

22. With regard to human rights education, Saudi Arabia has established the National Commission for Human Rights Education. In addition, a national plan for human rights education has been adopted and, along with a reference guide for human rights education, was disseminated to all institutions, schools and universities. A matrix guide on human rights has been integrated in schools' curricula, and studies have been conducted to determine how curricula address the question of human rights. Training programmes have been developed for persons who are involved in human rights education, and higher education institutions now teach human rights as a distinct subject matter.

Saudi Arabia's human rights efforts at the international level

23. Saudi Arabia's firm commitment to the protection of human rights and the need to develop national institutions, regulations and mechanisms is clearly reflected by its cooperation with international human rights treaty and non-treaty bodies. Saudi Arabia considers the role of these bodies to be of great importance in assisting States to develop the mechanisms and personnel they require to fulfil their human rights obligations. In that connection, it should be noted that the charter of the Human Rights Commission provides that it should cooperate with national, regional, and international human rights associations and organizations in a manner that enables the Commission to achieve its objectives and strengthen its relations.

24. The visit of the High Commissioner for Human Rights to Saudi Arabia in 2010 and her meeting with the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Abdullah Bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud, reflects the importance Saudi Arabia attaches to strengthening its relations with international human rights mechanisms.

25. A memorandum of understanding regarding technical cooperation between Saudi Arabia, represented by the Human Rights Commission, and the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights was signed in 2012. Among the goals set out in that memorandum are: strengthening the capacity of Saudi Arabian specialists in the field of international human rights law, particularly with regard to United

Nations mechanisms and the work of the relevant international organizations; developing and implementing specialized human rights training programmes in Saudi Arabia and abroad; developing guides for the staff of agencies that are concerned with human rights; and conducting specialized seminars and courses on human rights.

26. In 2013, in the framework of the United Nations Associate Expert Programme, the Saudi Arabian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the United Nations signed a memorandum of understanding concerning the provision of associate experts in the field of human rights. The aim of this arrangement is to build the capacity of Saudi Arabian experts working in international human rights law, particularly with regard to United Nations mechanisms.

27. Saudi Arabia has always strived to participate in the work and the sessions of the Human Rights Council, and has supported many Human Rights Council activities and resolutions aimed at promoting and protecting human rights.

28. Aware of the magnitude of the humanitarian catastrophe that has befallen the Syrian people, as evidenced by the death of more than 100,000 civilians and the regime's use of chemical weapons, Saudi Arabia, together with several members of the Human Rights Council, has supported the adoption of resolutions concerning the human rights situation in Syria. In addition, Saudi Arabia has provided humanitarian aid and relief to Syrian refugees.

29. As a member of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, Saudi Arabia supported the adoption by the Human Rights Council of resolution 16/18 on combating intolerance, negative stereotyping and stigmatization of, and discrimination, incitement to violence and violence against, persons based on religion or belief.

30. In the Third Committee of the General Assembly, Saudi Arabia supported the draft resolution on the situation of human rights in Myanmar, which addresses the situation of minorities in Myanmar, particularly the Rohingya people.

31. Saudi Arabia has participated in the work of and supported human rights treaty mechanisms, particularly through the membership of Ms. Aseil Al-Shehail in the Committee on the Rights of the Child, of which she is the Vice-Chair.

32. At its fourth session in 2009, the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review reviewed the first report of Saudi Arabia on human rights. The States members of the Human Rights Council made 53 recommendations to Saudi Arabia, of which 45 were accepted.

33. Saudi Arabia has already submitted its second report to the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, and it is scheduled to be reviewed at the Group's 17th session on 21 October 2013.

Saudi Arabia's contributions at the international level

34. Saudi Arabia's nomination for membership of the Human Rights Council for the period of 2014-2016 is in line with its efforts and contributions at the international level. These efforts and contributions have been aimed at promoting peace, tolerance and dialogue, fostering and protecting human rights, and supporting international development and prosperity. Saudi Arabia is of the view that cooperating with international institutions and supporting their objectives and

activities is the best way to achieve the above-mentioned goals. Saudi Arabia has launched a number of initiatives in that regard and provided support to many relevant international institutions.

35. In November 2012, the King Abdullah Bin Abdulaziz International Centre for Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue opened in Vienna. The opening of this institution was the culmination of the initiative of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Abdullah Bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud, to promote dialogue among cultures and the adherents of religions. The Centre strives to promote understanding, peaceful coexistence and tolerance, strengthen common denominators among peoples and make the differences between cultures and religions a basis for understanding, not confrontation.

36. Saudi Arabia has launched many initiatives to counter terrorism while preserving human rights. It has also denounced all conduct or actions that give rise to terrorism. The first practical step it took in that regard was to convene the International Conference on Counter-Terrorism, which took place in Riyadh in 2005. The most important outcome of that Conference was the decision to establish the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre. In 2011, Saudi Arabia concluded an agreement with the United Nations to establish the Centre, and the General Assembly supported the establishment of the Centre in its resolution 66/10 and called on States to cooperate with it. At that time, Saudi Arabia pledge to contribute $10 million over a three-year period in order to establish the Centre. This was followed by an additional contribution of $100 million in 2013 to support and operationalize the Centre and help it achieve the goals for which it was established.

37. Saudi Arabia has contributed $200,000 to the trust funds administered by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights. Those funds included the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture, the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery, the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights, the Voluntary Fund for Financial and Technical Assistance and the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations.

38. In 2012, Saudi Arabia contributed $1 million in support of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women.

39. Saudi Arabia supports developing countries. It has given economic aid totalling $103 billion to 95 developing countries around the world. Saudi Arabia has also provided material and moral support to several Arab, regional and international multilateral development institutions by contributing capital and providing them with administrative and technical support. These institutions play an active role in advancing the economic and social development of developing countries. Saudi Arabia's contributions to many of these bodies, in particular regional ones, exceed the contributions of other countries; the sum of its contributions is more than $24 billion.

40. With regard to debt relief for heavily indebted countries, Saudi Arabia has cancelled more than $6 billion of debt owed by a number of least developed countries. In addition, Saudi Arabia has provided debt relief to eligible countries under the international debt relief initiative.

41. In 2008, Saudi Arabia made a contribution of $500 million to the World Food Programme.

Voluntary pledges

42. Should Saudi Arabia be selected as a member for the period 2014-2016, it pledges to continue to support tirelessly the work of the Human Rights Council. It will continue to adhere to Human Rights Council resolutions, cooperate with its mechanisms and actively participate in its work during its regular and special sessions and in the session of the Social Forum.

43. Saudi Arabia furthermore affirms its commitment to:

- Continue to shoulder its humanitarian responsibility to protect and promote human rights at the national level by enacting legislation and establishing mechanisms that strengthen the institutional framework for human rights, and by adopting best practices in the field of human rights;
- Support the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights by contributing $1 million over a period of five years, starting 2012, in order to enable the Office to carry out its work and activities, including work referred to it by the Human Rights Council;
- Support the human rights bodies and mechanisms of the United Nations and cooperate constructively with them, particularly the Human Rights Council and its subsidiary mechanisms, including the universal periodic review mechanism, so as to ensure their continuation and success. These bodies provide assessments of the human rights situation in the world that call on States to cooperate with one another and benefit from each other's experience, and constitute a single forum for dialogue among States that is conducive to the exchange of best practices and experiences in the field of human rights;
- Cooperate with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and the specialized agencies of the United Nations with regard to meeting the country's training needs in the protection of human rights, building national capacity and identifying additional ways of protecting and promoting human rights.

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Security Council

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Sixty-eighth session
Agenda item 42
Question of Cyprus

Security Council
Sixty-eighth year

Letter dated 17 October 2013 from the Permanent Representative of Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I transmit herewith, in two separate annexes, both the recorded infringements of international air traffic regulations and violations of the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by Turkey (see annex I) and the illegal use of closed ports by Turkish warships during the month of September 2013 (see annex II). It should also be noted that Turkish commercial aircraft systematically use the illegal airport of Tympou. I have the honour to draw your attention to the systematic abuses by Turkey of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Cyprus by its blatantly violating international law in a way that seriously jeopardizes safety and security in the greater region.

In addition, Turkey continues to systematically harass and at instances threaten civilian and military aircraft within the Nicosia flight information region by means of radio calls. Turkey's policy of persistently breaching international law and defying international rules and regulations gravely jeopardizes the safety of international civil aviation and the stability of the region, while it also causes difficulties for air traffic in Cyprus and endangers the safety and security of airline passengers.

I would be grateful if you would circulate the present letter and its annex as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 42, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Nicholas **Emiliou**
Permanent Representative

13-52091 (E) 241013

Please recycle

Annex I to the letter dated 17 October 2013 from the Permanent Representative of Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Airborne violations

Date	*Time*	*Nature of violation*
2 September 2013	1621-1647	Two F-16 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia flight information region (FIR) and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit or contacting the Nicosia area control centre (ACC).
4 September 2013	1110-1130	One B-200 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit or contacting the Nicosia ACC, landing at the illegal airport of Tympou.
	1703-1721	One B-200 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit or contacting the Nicosia ACC, having departed from the illegal airport of Tympou.
5 September 2013	1850-1945	One Turkish military helicopter infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit or contacting the Nicosia ACC.
9 September 2013	1910-2140	One CN-235 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit or contacting the Nicosia ACC.
9-10 September 2013	2228-0058	One CN-235 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit or contacting the Nicosia ACC.
12 September 2013	1328-1458	One CN-235 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit or contacting the Nicosia ACC.

Date	*Time*	*Nature of violation*
	1513-1617	Two Turkish military helicopters infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit or contacting the Nicosia ACC.
	2015-2110	Two Turkish military helicopters infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit or contacting the Nicosia ACC.
16 September 2013	1439-1505	One CN-235 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit or contacting the Nicosia ACC, landing at the illegal airport of Tympou.
17 September 2013	0925-1015	One Turkish military helicopter infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit or contacting the Nicosia ACC.
17 September 2013	1302-1455	One CN-235 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit or contacting the Nicosia ACC.
	1645-1900	Two S-70 Turkish military helicopters infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit or contacting the Nicosia ACC.
	1721-1747	One CN-235 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit or contacting the Nicosia ACC, having departed from the illegal airport of Tympou.
18 September 2013	1005-1039	One CN-235 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit or contacting the Nicosia ACC.
	1245-1355	One Cougar Turkish military helicopter and one Bell Turkish military helicopter infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit or contacting the Nicosia ACC.

Date	*Time*	*Nature of violation*
	1449-1600	One DA-20 Turkish aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit or contacting the Nicosia ACC.
	1510-1529	Two F-16 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit or contacting the Nicosia ACC.
19 September 2013	1136-1156	One CN-235 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit or contacting the Nicosia ACC, landing at the illegal airport of Tympou.
	1642-1718	Four F-16 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit or contacting the Nicosia ACC.
	1657-1711	One CN-235 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit or contacting the Nicosia ACC, having departed from the illegal airport of Tympou.
20 September 2013	0925-1010	One CN-235 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit or contacting the Nicosia ACC.
	0943-0954	One Cougar Turkish military helicopter and one Bell Turkish military helicopter infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit or contacting the Nicosia ACC.
20 September 2013	1124-1134	One Cougar Turkish military helicopter infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit or contacting the Nicosia ACC.
	1332-1410	One Cougar Turkish military helicopter and one Bell Turkish military helicopter infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit or contacting the Nicosia ACC.

Date	*Time*	*Nature of violation*
23 September 2013	1220-1248	One CN-235 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit or contacting the Nicosia ACC, landing at the illegal airport of Tympou.
	1542-1609	One CN-235 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit or contacting the Nicosia ACC, having departed from the illegal airport of Tympou.
24 September 2013	1141-1432	One CN-235 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit or contacting the Nicosia ACC.
	1337-1456	One CN-235 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit or contacting the Nicosia ACC.
	1609-1634	Four F-16 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit or contacting the Nicosia ACC.
	1629-1646	Two F-16 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit or contacting the Nicosia ACC.
	2010-2131	One S-70 Turkish military helicopter infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit or contacting the Nicosia ACC.
	2018-2130	One S-70 Turkish military helicopter infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit or contacting the Nicosia ACC.
26 September 2013	0917-0957	One Turkish helicopter infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit or contacting the Nicosia ACC.
	1202-1226	Four F-16 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit or contacting the Nicosia ACC.

Date	*Time*	*Nature of violation*
27 September 2013	0904-0920	One C-650 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit or contacting the Nicosia ACC, landing at the illegal airport of Tympou.
	1406-1431	One CN-235 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit or contacting the Nicosia ACC, landing at the illegal airport of Tympou.
	1830-1839	One C-650 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit or contacting the Nicosia ACC, having departed from the illegal airport of Tympou.

Annex II to the letter dated 17 October 2013 from the Permanent Representative of Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Naval violations

Dates	*Nature of violation*
26 August-19 September 2013	One A-573 Turkish tanker violated the territorial waters of the Republic of Cyprus and illegally used the closed port of Ammochostos.
30 August-1 September 2013	One P-331 Turkish missile boat violated the territorial waters of the Republic of Cyprus and illegally used the closed port of Ammochostos, while participating in naval exercises of the occupation forces.
30 August-1 September 2013	One P-337 Turkish missile boat violated the territorial waters of the Republic of Cyprus and illegally used the closed port of Ammochostos, while participating in naval exercises of the occupation forces.
31 August-1 September 2013	One F-504 Turkish corvette violated the territorial waters of the Republic of Cyprus and illegally used the closed port of Ammochostos, while participating in naval exercises of the occupation forces.
2-9 September 2013	One P-337 Turkish missile boat violated the territorial waters of the Republic of Cyprus and illegally used the closed port of Ammochostos, while participating in naval exercises of the occupation forces.
2-9 September 2013	One F-504 Turkish corvette violated the territorial waters of the Republic of Cyprus and illegally used the closed port of Ammochostos, while participating in naval exercises of the occupation forces.
3-9 September 2013	One P-331 Turkish missile boat violated the territorial waters of the Republic of Cyprus and illegally used the closed port of Ammochostos, while participating in naval exercises of the occupation forces.
4-9 September 2013	One F-490 Turkish frigate violated the territorial waters of the Republic of Cyprus and illegally used the closed port of Ammochostos, while participating in naval exercises of the occupation forces.
10 September 2013	One A-1600 Turkish military transport ferry violated the territorial waters of the Republic of Cyprus and illegally used the closed port of Ammochostos.
10-11 September 2013	One P-331 Turkish missile boat violated the territorial waters of the Republic of Cyprus and illegally used the closed port of Ammochostos, while participating in naval exercises of the occupation forces.
10-11 September 2013	One F-495 Turkish frigate violated the territorial waters of the Republic of Cyprus and illegally used the closed port of Ammochostos, while participating in naval exercises of the occupation forces.
10-12 September 2013	One P-337 Turkish missile boat violated the territorial waters of the Republic of Cyprus and illegally used the closed port of Ammochostos, while participating in naval exercises of the occupation forces.

Dates	*Nature of violation*
10-18 September 2013	One P-338 Turkish missile boat violated the territorial waters of the Republic of Cyprus and illegally used the closed port of Ammochostos, while participating in naval exercises of the occupation forces.
12-13 September 2013	One A-1600 Turkish military transport ferry violated the territorial waters of the Republic of Cyprus and illegally used the closed port of Ammochostos.
12-14 September 2013	One P-331 Turkish missile boat violated the territorial waters of the Republic of Cyprus and illegally used the closed port of Ammochostos, while participating in naval exercises of the occupation forces.
12-23 September 2013	One F-495 Turkish frigate violated the territorial waters of the Republic of Cyprus and illegally used the closed port of Ammochostos, while participating in naval exercises of the occupation forces.
13-15 September 2013	One P-337 Turkish missile boat violated the territorial waters of the Republic of Cyprus and illegally used the closed port of Ammochostos, while participating in naval exercises of the occupation forces.
14-30 September 2013	One P-333 Turkish missile boat violated the territorial waters of the Republic of Cyprus and illegally used the closed port of Ammochostos, while participating in naval exercises of the occupation forces.
15-26 September 2013	One P-332 Turkish missile boat violated the territorial waters of the Republic of Cyprus and illegally used the closed port of Ammochostos, while participating in naval exercises of the occupation forces.
18 September 2013	One P-337 Turkish missile boat violated the territorial waters of the Republic of Cyprus and illegally used the closed port of Ammochostos, while participating in naval exercises of the occupation forces.
19 September-October 2013	One A-572 Turkish tanker violated the territorial waters of the Republic of Cyprus and illegally used the closed port of Ammochostos.
22 September-October 2013	One F-504 Turkish corvette violated the territorial waters of the Republic of Cyprus and illegally used the closed port of Ammochostos, while participating in naval exercises of the occupation forces.
26 September 2013	One A-1600 Turkish military transport ferry violated the territorial waters of the Republic of Cyprus and illegally used the closed port of Ammochostos.
26 September-October 2013	One F-495 Turkish frigate violated the territorial waters of the Republic of Cyprus and illegally used the closed port of Ammochostos, while participating in naval exercises of the occupation forces.
27 September-October 2013	One P-332 Turkish missile boat violated the territorial waters of the Republic of Cyprus and illegally used the closed port of Ammochostos, while participating in naval exercises of the occupation forces.